

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Virginia
COUNTY:
Washington
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	White's Mill
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:	
Abingdon vicinity		Ninth (William C. Wampler)	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	51	Washington	191

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY		
OWNER'S NAME:		
Guy Miller		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
White's Mill		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Abingdon	Virginia	51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:		
Washington County Court House		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Abingdon	Virginia	51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS		
TITLE OF SURVEY:		
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey		
DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:		
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
221 Governor Street		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Richmond	Virginia	51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
Virginia		
COUNTY		
Washington		
FOR NPS USE ONLY		

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

White's Mill is a frame two-story structure resting on a down slope basement with a full attic sheltered by a gable roof. At the basement level are located the main gears for the buhr runs, roller mills, elevators and bolting machinery. In addition to the gear well, the basement level also contains an area for a water-powered sawmill and a brick corner fireplace. The first or main floor supports the one remaining run of millstones (there were originally two stands of buhrs) and a complement of three Sprout & Waldron and MacAnulty Roller Mills. Besides the actual grinding apparatus, the first floor also holds the controls for adjusting the flow from the head race, and regulating the height and speed of the capstone as well as the buhr hoist, meal bins, grain elevators and scales. On the third floor are situated the rolling bolter and shaking sifter (both manufactured by Sprout & Waldron) and an Eureka smut remover. The attic contains the mechanisms for the grain elevators. The entire operation is run exclusively on a water-powered twenty foot diameter Fitz overshot metal wheel.

The actual mill structure was originally covered with plain unbeaded weatherboarding, although some of this has been replaced on the downslope basement side with board-and-batten siding. Access into the mill is gained through Dutch doors located on either the main floor east wall or basement north wall and hung on wrought iron strap hinges and having wooden spring or sliding latches. Originally lighted by six-over-six sliding sash windows, some of the early sash has been replaced with later Victorian period lights. The mill also has an interior corner chimney built of locally burned brick located in the northwest corner of the structure and having fireplace openings on the first floor and basement levels.

Built along the basic ideas outlined in Oliver Evan's 1795 edition of The Young Millwright and Miller's Guide, White's Mill is run by water without the aid of any auxilliary power source. With the exceptions of the Fitz waterwheel and the great gear wheel, all the interior gears and workings for White's Mill are handmade of wood. The water for the mill is diverted from Toole's Creek by means of an earthen race which feeds directly into the wooden race and onto the wheel. Also associated with the operations at White's Mill is an early coursed rubble limestone dam with a functional hydraulic ram.

B. H.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although a mill was established on this location as early as 1796, the present White's Mill was probably not built until the mid 19th century. Originally erected as a water-powered buhr mill operating two runs of millstones, the mill was altered in the late 19th century to take, in addition to the already extant grinding apparatus, three stands of Sprout & Waldron and MacAnulty Roller Mills and modern bolting and sifting equipment. At an unspecified later date the early wooden overshot wheel was replaced with the currently used twenty-foot diameter Fitz overshot wheel.

Throughout the course of these technical modernizations and alterations White's Mill has remained in almost continuous operation as a commercial or semi-commercial enterprise. Still grinding grain for either a nominal toll in kind or fixed price per pound, the mill is open on an occasional basis to both customers and visitors. Although only the millstones are used for grinding at the present time, the roller mills, smut removers, elevators, bolters and sifters are also maintained and are in an operable condition.

White's Mill's significance, however, is more than historical or architectural. Built in accordance with Oliver Evan's late 18th century innovations in milling and expanded to include the late 19th century inventions of roller mill machinery, White's Mill is important as a very rare working example of the various phases in the technical evolution of grist milling all housed in a single structure. The only known working water-powered commercially run mill still in operation in Southwest Virginia, White's Mill is an excellently preserved survival from the almost vanished species of the water-powered local grist mill integral to the Virginia scene and economy less than a century ago.

B.H.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kearfott, Clarence Baker, Highland Mills, New York: Vantage Press, Inc., 1970.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission files.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36 ° 46 ' 05 "	81 ° 59 ' 17 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 7 acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	February, 1974
STREET AND NUMBER:	
221 Governor Street	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE
Richmond	Virginia
	CODE
	51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

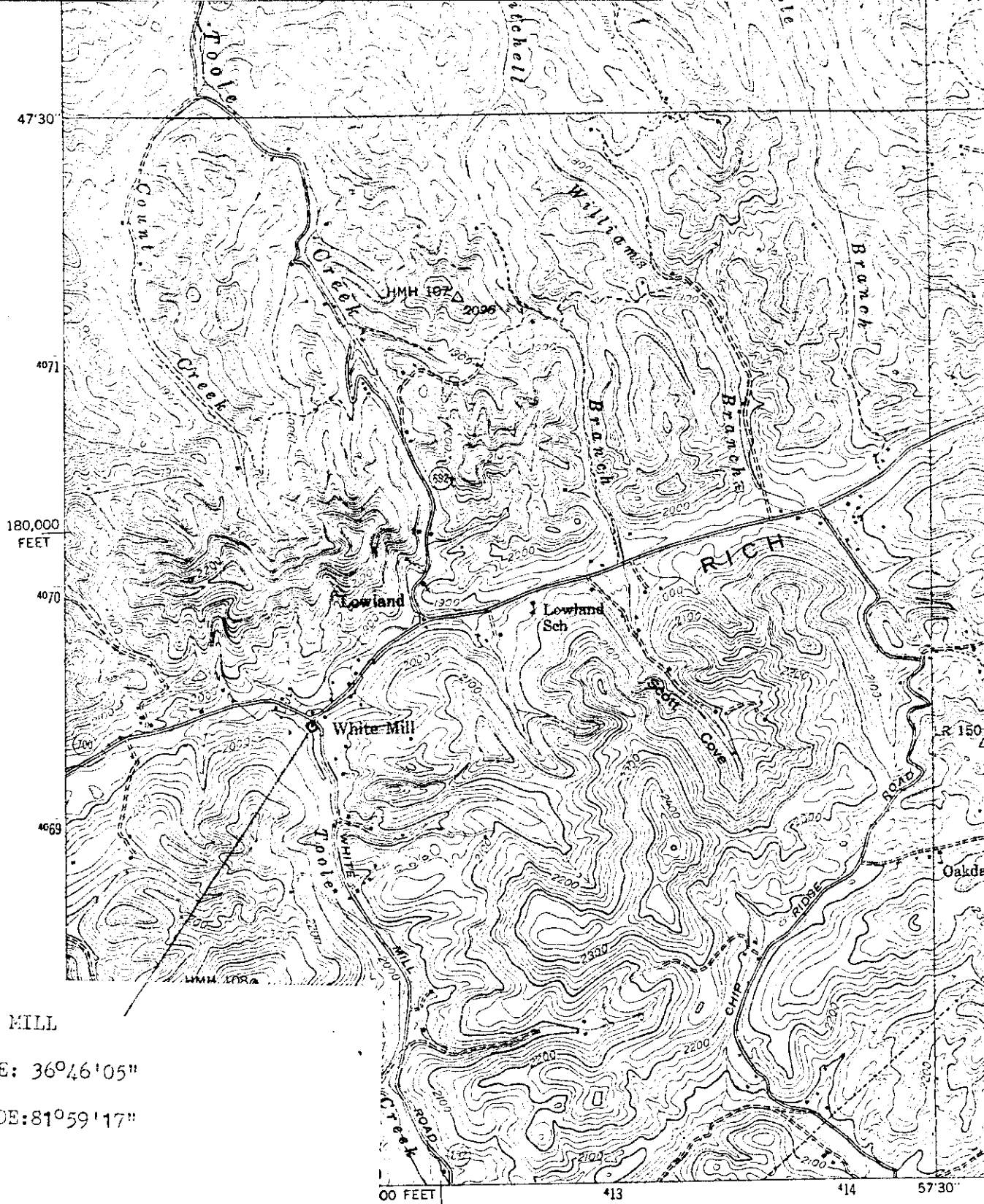
Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



WHITE'S MILL

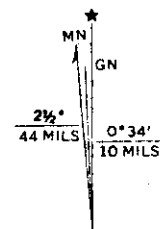
LATITUDE: $36^{\circ}46'05''$

LONGITUDE: $81^{\circ}59'17''$

(Wyndale
4557 11 N

by stereophotogrammetric process.
Field examination by Tennessee Valley Authority—1938
Office inspection and review by the Geological Survey
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 17, shown in blue

Revisions shown in purple and recompilation of woodland areas
compiled by the Geological Survey in cooperation with Commonwealth
of Virginia from aerial photographs taken 1969. This information
not field checked



UTM GRID AND 1969 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET